

MILLION BRITISH SOLDIERS

NEEDED TO STOP GERMAN INVASION, SAYS EARL ROBERTS.

House of Lords Backs Up the General by Vote of 14 to 3—Government Worried Over Effects of Debate Abroad.

Lord Cromer's Warning Recalled.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—An important and significant debate was initiated by Earl Roberts, ex-Commander in Chief of the British forces, in the House of Lords to-day. The keynote of the discussion was the ease with which Germany might invade Great Britain and the unreadiness of the latter country to resist invasion.

Earl Roberts's notice of motion attracted the largest assembly of peers that has been present this session, and there was an unusually large attendance in the galleries. Several members of the Cabinet and a number of members of the House of Commons listened with keen attention.

Earl Roberts, upright and alert as usual, made a motion to the effect that it was immediately necessary to provide in addition to a powerful navy an army so strong in numbers and so efficient in quality that the most formidable foreign nation would hesitate to attempt an invasion of Great Britain. His grave earnestness recalled that he has been twice for two years to procure serious consideration of this vital question, his efforts seeming to be in vain.

Lord Roberts said he was deeply concerned that his warnings in regard to the possibility of invasion were not heeded. The danger appeared to him and others who had seriously studied the subject all too obvious. He felt that a terrible awakening might be in store at no distant period.

He scouted the contention of those bent upon reducing expenditure that an invasion was an impossibility, a nightmare of a few alarmists. He and others had undertaken careful researches, and the result of these proved that the question of invasion was materially different from what it was in 1905, when Mr. Balfour declared that Great Britain was immune. Mr. Balfour's opinion had had a most unfortunate effect. It had blinded all classes to the existing danger.

He set forth at length technical and other grounds for wholly disbelieving that War Secretary Haldane's new territorial army could be either large enough or efficient enough to repel invasion. There ought to be a citizen army, he said, of 1,000,000 instead of 200,000. No smaller force could hope to meet successfully the highly trained Continental soldiers and fulfill the other duties which would be concurrently demanded of it in the event of an invasion.

The want of such an army, Earl Roberts said, was an incentive to invasion. He pointed out how easily in his view a German invader could escape the alertest efforts of the British fleet, and he added: "There is a very serious chance that a German army might enter this country as the result simply of measures taken to secure secrecy, and against this the utmost strength and resources of the navy could give no protection whatever."

The speaker dwelt in detail on Germany's facilities for concentrating and despatching troops and the enterprise and skill with which she had developed within a decade the greatest sea power in existence except that of Great Britain, a power which she was resolutely and rapidly increasing. He did not blame Germany. She should rather be praised and her example followed. Her people by industry, perseverance, sound education and universal military training had become a great nation.

But the dangers which he apprehended from the near neighborhood of a powerful and clever nation impressed him with the conviction that if the British navy were double its present strength a citizen army of a million trained men would be essential to peace and security, and the present territorial arrangement was hopelessly inadequate. In conclusion he said: "My feeling of conviction in this matter is strengthened by the grave events which at this very moment cloud the horizon of eastern Europe with uncertainty, and it is my absolute belief that without a military organization more adequate to the certain perils of the future our empire will fall from our power long before we are aware of it."

Lord Cromer, who a few months ago started public opinion by giving a grave warning of the unsuspected proximity of a European war, cordially indorsed Earl Roberts's views, but he deprecated a suggestion that the Government be pressed for a definite statement concerning the invasion problem. He declared that under various recent sharp electric shocks the nerves of Europe were rather highly strung and a statement might not act as a sedative.

Ex-War Secretary Middleton also concurred with Earl Roberts.

The Earl of Cromer, the Government leader, said he thought Earl Roberts had taken a very serious step. He only hoped no misunderstanding would arise outside of Great Britain as a result of the discussion.

The Marquis of Lansdowne agreed with Earl Roberts in many respects, but he doubted that an army of a million citizens would be any more effective to resist a highly trained foreign army than the present recruits.

Earl Roberts's motion was carried against the Government by a vote of 14 to 32.

MARRIED AT 4 A. M.

Hammond Braman and Miss Rose O'Neill Rush to Stamford and Back.

STAMFORD, Conn., Nov. 23.—Hammond Braman of 206 Massachusetts avenue, Boston, and Miss Rose A. O'Neill, an actress, were married here about 4 o'clock this morning by Judge Martin J. Gray at Judge Gray's residence. Mr. Braman is 35 years old. This is his second marriage. His first ending in divorce. Miss O'Neill is 23 and is playing with "The Gay Musicians" company.

The couple decided to be married last night while they were in New York. They came to Stamford in a motor car about 2:30, with Jack Montross and Miss Carroll. They stopped at police headquarters and then went to the residence of Judge Gray, where the license was obtained, and sent Policeman Groun along to show them Judge Gray's residence.

After the marriage they returned to New York in the automobile.

OIL PAPERS ARE MISSING.

Evidence Against the Standard Case From the Cleveland Files.

CLEVELAND, Nov. 23.—Documents wanted as evidence against the Standard Oil Company on the suit of the Government now in hearing in New York are missing from their files in the office of the county clerk.

Tilden Conant, assistant to Frank B. Kellogg, who is prosecuting the suit for the Government, arrived in Cleveland to-day with a summons for Charles P. Salen, County Clerk, to appear in court with papers in a suit for injunction brought by the Standard against three independent oil producers in 1890. He learned from Mr. Salen that these documents have disappeared from the county's files. Mr. Conant returned to New York last night.

The missing documents are the petition of the Standard Oil Company for an injunction against William Scofield, Daniel Shuman and John Teagle to restrain them from violating an alleged agreement to restrict the output of refined oil and twelve affidavits. They had been expected to furnish evidence for the Government in its attempt to dissolve the Standard in New Jersey.

County Clerk Salen made the following statement to-night: "I have known that the papers had been taken for three years. When they were taken or who took them I do not know. I made a sworn statement to that effect to Mr. Conant when he arrived to-day."

"The last record we have in the case is dated 1892, when certified copies of all the documents relating to it were made. These copies were certified by Levi P. Meacham, who was then county clerk."

We have no way of knowing to whom the copies were issued. "Miss Tarbell obtained permission to see the files five years ago when she came to Cleveland. Whether or not the papers were missing at that time I do not know. Their disappearance was not discovered until after the publication of her articles a year later, when attorneys of the Standard Oil Company asked to see the files."

POISON, SAYS THE WOMAN.

Manager of St. Bartholomew's Loan Bureau Arrested on Her Charge.

Daniel R. Kennedy, general manager of St. Bartholomew's Loan Bureau in East Forty-second street, was arrested yesterday afternoon by Detectives Flood and Fitzsimmons of the District Attorney's office after Mrs. Frances Schlesinger, a widow of 18 West 107th street, had accused Kennedy of attempting to poison her.

Mrs. Schlesinger told Assistant District Attorney Murphy that she had known Kennedy for three years and that he had been a frequent caller at her home. She said that she had quarreled with him a week ago Sunday when she accused him of using morphine and told him that he must not see her again until he had broken off the habit. Kennedy, according to the woman's story, called on her the following Wednesday and tried to make peace. He brought with him a jar of white cherries as a gift. The next night Mrs. Schlesinger ate some of the cherries at dinner and next morning she awoke feeling very ill. She tried the cherries again that noon and was so sick shortly afterward that a trained nurse who was boarding with her administered antidotes for poison.

Kennedy when brought to the District Attorney's office admitted giving Mrs. Schlesinger the fruit, which he said he had received as a present last summer from a Mrs. Johnson, whom he had met during his work at the loan bureau. Kennedy couldn't remember where Mrs. Johnson lived. He said that she gave him six jars of the fruit and that he ate five of them. Kennedy denied that he had tried to poison Mrs. Schlesinger and said that her charge against him had been made in an attempt to extort money.

Mrs. Schlesinger gave Assistant District Attorney Murphy the jar containing what was left of the cherries. The fruit will be analyzed. Kennedy was sent to Police Headquarters after he had made his statement.

At the St. Bartholomew Settlement House it was said last night that nothing was known of Kennedy's arrest. He is a paid employee of the loan bureau and has always held a good reputation there. Kennedy is 59 years old. His accuser is a very pretty woman of about 35.

POURIN HEARD FOR HIMSELF.

Testifies That He Was a Revolutionary Who Made War, Not a Bandit.

Jan Janoff Pourin, the Russian refugee who was wanted by the Czar's Government on charges of murder, arson, robbery and other crimes, took the witness stand in his own defense yesterday afternoon. When the extradition hearing was resumed before United States Commissioner Hitchcock Congressman Herbert Parsons, one of Pourin's counsel, conducted the direct examination.

Pourin admitted his identity and said that in the summer of 1905 he belonged to the Social Democratic party in Russia. In 1906 he became a member of the revolutionary organization, known as the "Black Guard of the World."

"What were you and your companions striving for?" asked Mr. Parsons. "Shorter working hours, better dwelling houses, a free press and free speech, and the amelioration of the condition of women, especially to prevent their being compelled to work within six weeks before or after childbirth," answered the witness through an interpreter.

Pourin has picked up considerable English since his confinement in the Tombs, but not enough to enable him to testify in that tongue.

The greatest part of the accused man's testimony was a repetition of that given by previous witnesses. He gave a long list of the inns and farmhouses burned by the brotherhood and the spies summarily disposed of, at the conclusion of which Frederic R. Coudert, of counsel for the Russian Government, asked Congressman Parsons if he couldn't prevail on the President to reform Russian spelling. Mr. Parsons would not commit himself.

The hearing will be resumed this afternoon.

Permanent Republican Headquarters.

The headquarters of the Republican national committee in the Metropolitan Building were closed up yesterday. It has been decided, however, to open permanent headquarters of the committee in the Union Trust Company Building in Washington. Chairman Hitchcock will leave New York to-night for Hot Springs, Va., to spend Thanksgiving Day with Mr. Taft.

FRANK MELVILLE DROPS DEAD

FAMOUS CIRCUS MAN EXPIRES AT THE HIPPODROME.

Had Been Unable to Appear on the Stage for a Week and Had Called in to Talk.

Elephants—Noted Bareback Rider and of a Family Famed in the Ring.

Frank Melville, equestrian director of the Hippodrome and one of the best known circus men in the world, died suddenly last night in the office of the press department in the Hippodrome building of organic heart disease.

Mr. Melville had been unable to appear on the Hippodrome stage for the past week, but was about town to some extent, and last night went to the Hippodrome to see Wells Hawks, the press representative, regarding the plans to meet a number of new elephants which are to arrive on the White Star liner Georgia. He reached Mr. Hawks's office a little before 10 o'clock, and finding Mr. Hawks occupied elsewhere in the building, sat down to wait, meanwhile talking with Sam Bleyer, the purchasing agent for the big playhouse.

After a few minutes conversation Mr. Melville stooped to pat Mr. Hawks's bulldog, which was lying on the floor, and as he raised himself again with a remark about the dog's growling at a caress from a friend toppled back in his chair.

Bleyer called John B. Fitzpatrick, the house manager, who also is a physician, but Mr. Melville's condition was such that Fitzpatrick immediately telephoned for Dr. J. W. Ames of 104 West Forty-fifth street. The director was dead when Dr. Ames arrived. Coroner's Physician O'Hanlon gave permission for the removal of the body to Mr. Melville's home in West Forty-first street. Mr. Melville's brother, George Melville, also a member of the Hippodrome forces, had been taking his place for the last week and was on the stage at the time his brother was stricken.

Frank Melville was the most accomplished bareback rider the circus ever has seen. His last appearance in this role was in the Hippodrome show of last season, when with his wife he put on a "high school" act. In the run of that act the large white horse, one of the many he himself had trained and which won his share of the applause given to the act, fell and broke its neck at a performance. This year Mr. Melville has continued as equestrian director and as master of ceremonies, and for the first time has had lines to speak; but he has done no riding himself because of his health.

There have been five generations of Melvilles in the circus business. In the civil war Frank Melville, father of the Hippodrome director, with his wife, floated a circus down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers, exhibiting first before the Union troops and then before the Confederates.

The younger Frank Melville was born fifty-seven years ago and began riding in a circus when he was 13 years old. He was the first to do a somersault from the ground to a galloping horse and also invented and was the first to perform many of the other acts which now are a part of the best riding exhibitions. He had been with every important circus in the world and had played in every country and before many crowned heads.

He was with the Barnum & Bailey Circus when the Hippodrome was opened five years ago and he left the circus to become the equestrian director of the new undertaking. He also had charge of the equestrian work at Luna Park in the years that Fred Thompson had the Hippodrome, giving up active work at the seaside resort to take charge of the city playhouse. He was the first to perform many of the other acts which now are a part of the best riding exhibitions. He had been with every important circus in the world and had played in every country and before many crowned heads.

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He is survived by his wife and brother. One son died some years ago.

Mr. Melville lived at 121 West Forty-first street. His wife has been ill in bed for some weeks. When George Melville, the brother, hurried to her bedside last night to tell her of the death of her husband she dressed, and against the protest of her brother-in-law and nurses drove to the Hippodrome and took charge of the body.

JURY TO TRY JENKINS.

Trial of Former Trust Company President for Larceny Begins in Brooklyn.

The trial of John G. Jenkins, Jr., charged with the larceny of \$50,000 while president of the Jenkins Trust Company, began yesterday before Justice Keely in the Supreme Court, Brooklyn. The whole day was taken up in the selection of jurors. While these talesmen were being questioned and cross-questioned Mr. and Mrs. Fenwick B. Small, the latter a sister of the defendant, and several relatives and friends listened with much interest. It took an hour to get the first jury.

Jenkins was indicted last May for taking \$50,000 from the trust company to bolster up the business of Frank Jenkins and John G. Jenkins, Jr., at 72 Broadway. District Attorney Clarke, who is conducting the prosecution, says that he took just twice that amount. Earlier indictments for conspiracy and forgery in the third degree, which were found in November, 1907, following the financial troubles, have not yet come to trial. Justice Scudder is now considering an application for a change of venue made by Stephen C. Baldwin, counsel for the defense.

The jury box was filled at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The jurors are Louis H. Lins, grocer, 180 Washington avenue; Charles Lehmann, merchant, 250 Midwood street; H. Kuch, confectioner, 200 Flatbush avenue; Ernest M. Hungerford, real estate, 1335 Fifty-eighth street; R. C. Hutchinson, cement dealer, 304 Lafayette avenue; Edward J. Hoyt, salesman, 971A Putnam avenue; Luther O. Sneddon, Jr., grain dealer, 2601 Fifth avenue; Thomas J. McKim, civil engineer, 3001 Decatur street; Ernest Schwank, grocer, 284 Stuyvesant avenue; Henry E. Michaels, manufacturer, 1332 Jersey avenue; John McLaughlin, machinist, 102 Butler street; and Oscar H. Maynard, bookkeeper, 193 Wilson street.

All Defendants Face Suspense as to Made at the Farm in Southern Mass. They were in the hands of the State.

MANY KILLED BY TORNADO.

Two Mile Wide Path of Ruin Through Arkansas Is 50 Miles Long.

FORT SMITH, Ark., Nov. 23.—From meagre reports received here to-night from a score of towns in northeast Arkansas it appears that twenty-five people were killed, fifty injured and a number are missing through a tornado which swept through this section of country.

The path of the storm was two miles wide and seventy miles long. Its force was felt in the greatest degree in the vicinity of Ozark, Ark. The small town of Cravens, four miles west, was completely wiped out. Four people were killed and three fatally injured.

The dead are Mr. and Mrs. John Roan and two children. The injured are Dr. and Mrs. Hill, an aged couple, who were caught in the collapse of their house and crushed. Grocery stores in which several people had taken refuge were blown to pieces and all the occupants more or less hurt.

Dr. Croker of Lenell, Ark., was slightly hurt. Eight people—three men and two women and three children—are reported missing in Cravens. All were seen before the storm.

At Knoxville, Ark., the storm passed over the mouth of Piney Creek, demolishing everything in its path. Twenty people were injured and several are reported to have been killed.

Calls for doctors have been sent from Barr, a small town four miles northeast of Knoxville. Physicians went to the stricken town on a handcar and have not returned. Barr was swept nearly off the map.

The country between Knoxville and Barr is waste, the farmhouses were shattered and some of the occupants killed. The path of destruction in some places is four miles wide.

The damage at Berryville is confined mostly to stores and churches. The storm came up from the west at 2:15 o'clock and lasted but a few minutes. The Methodist Church was wrecked and the parsonage badly damaged.

The homes of four doctors, frame structures, were completely demolished. The Baptist church cupola was blown 150 feet and a neighboring frame house, unoccupied, was reduced to kindlings. Eleven other dwellings were blown from their foundations and barns unroofed.

A telegram from Knoxville at 11 o'clock to-night states that the storm passed near Russellville at 3 o'clock this afternoon and killed fifteen people and injured a score. This report cannot be confirmed, as wires are working very badly.

TURKEY ADVANCING TROOPS.

Refuses to Recognize Bosnian Grant—Boycott Karageza Austria.

Special Cable Dispatches to THE SUN.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 23.—A Constantinople dispatch to the *Bourse* declares that the strain between Austria and Turkey is grave.

Turkey has decisively rejected Austria's claim for the recognition of her annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a condition of her agreeing to a conference and is moving troops westward in readiness for emergencies.

It is alleged that 25,000 men have gone since November 1, and the movement continues. Austria is also increasing her military preparations.

VIENNA, Nov. 23.—The persistent boycott of Austrian trade by Turkey is absorbing attention for the moment to the exclusion of all other aspects of the Balkan problem. Commercial interests have been pressing the Government to interfere, and a special Ministerial conference has been summoned to consider the matter.

It is stated that it has already been decided that Austrian Lloyd steamers, which are still boycotted at Turkish ports, shall in the future be accompanied by Austrian warships.

Officials of the Ministry of Commerce say that Austrian trade to the amount of 1,000,000 kroner, equal to \$200,000, has already been lost.

BELGRADE, Nov. 23.—The National Bank has sent its bullion and books to Nisch.

Two newspaper men, an American and a Dane, have arrived here after traveling for a month in Montenegro, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Novi-Bazar. They say conditions in Bosnia could not be worse than they are. The people detest their present rulers, but are helpless. They are unarmed, while Austrian soldiers are everywhere. The latter probably number 80,000.

The bulk of the Montenegrin army is stationed on the frontier of Herzegovina, where it is faced by nearly 10,000 Austrians.

PRESBYTERIANS TO ROOSEVELT.

Indorse Protest of Lutherans Against the "Narrow Bigotry" Letter.

A majority of the Presbyterian ministers in attendance upon the weekly meeting of the Presbyterian Ministers Association of New York, held yesterday at 156 Fifth avenue, voted for a resolution indorsing the letter sent recently by the conference of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of New York to President Roosevelt protesting against his condemnation of all who refused under the spur of "narrow bigotry" to vote for a Roman Catholic for high office in this country.

The letter of the Lutherans had been in reference to one written by President Roosevelt to a correspondent in Dayton, Ohio, and made public by the President, wherein Mr. Roosevelt set forth the iniquity of discriminating politically against one of the Catholic faith seeking votes for office. The resolution adopted by the Presbyterians at yesterday's meeting read as follows:

"Resolved, That the Presbyterian Ministers Association of New York and vicinity cordially indorses the letter of the New York Lutheran ministers to President Roosevelt and sympathizes with them in their protest against the charge of 'narrow bigotry' by him, made against any who might refuse to vote for one who, otherwise fit, happens to serve some political creed."

"The letter of our Lutheran brethren makes it very clear that the antiquated policy of the Vatican to the claim of supremacy in temporal things as well as spiritual renders it inadvisable on purely patriotic grounds to vote into high office any man who owes allegiance first to the Pope and then to the people."

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GATUN DAM COLLAPSE STORY

PANAMA HEARS FLOODS HAVE MADE A HOLE IN IT.

Chagres River Said to Be Running Over Site Where 40 Feet Barrier Was Reared—Washington Doesn't Know of It—Doubts as to the Foundation.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

PANAMA, Nov. 23.—The *Journal* publishes a sensational story to the effect that owing to the recent rains a section of the unfinished Gatun dam, which was built forty feet above the sea level, was destroyed last night.

A portion of it 85 feet wide, 50 feet deep and 40 feet high, according to the story, sunk into the earth until the top of the dam was level with the surrounding surface.

The Chagres River is said to be flowing over the site and the railroad tracks, the pumping station and the sides of the lock are under water.

It is stated that the scene of the accident is close to the spot where it is alleged recent borings showed that there was a lack of proper natural foundation.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—Officials of the Canal Commission in this city say that no report of any accident to the Gatun dam has been received here.

During the preliminary investigation of the site for the proposed dam, the Caribbean side of the Isthmus, will be when completed about a mile and a half long and will have a total elevation at the crest of 135 feet above sea level. This dam will control a great lake some 225 miles in area, according to the detailed surveys made last year.

The dam has been the cause of much worry to the builders of the canal and of much discussion by various engineers. In January, 1907, information was brought to the attention of the Senate Committee on International Canals to the effect that borings on the site of the proposed dam had developed, according to the report of John F. Stevens, the chief engineer, a stratum of clay under which was soft mud. The clay and mud, it was represented, would not be sufficiently firm to support the dam. It was feared that the discovery would compel the abandonment of the lock and dam plan and the substitution for it of a sea level canal. A few days later, however, a report from Engineer Stevens reached the Senate committee denying the danger.

The plans call for the construction of three pairs of locks in series, each having a lift of about twenty-eight feet, to the hill about midway of the dam. Borings were made on the site of these locks and Mr. Stevens reported that 137 borings, covering an area 1,300 feet square, showed to the satisfaction of the engineers that the three locks, "having usual dimensions of 160 feet wide by 1,000 feet long, with foundations for lock walls at all points supported on firm and suitable soft rock," could be built.

"The results of our continued explorations," Mr. Stevens's report continued, "only confirm my previous judgment that we have ample sufficient and perfectly safe foundations at all lock sites." Further investigating was done, however, and in May of last year engineers specially employed reported that for the most part the rock, beginning at a few feet below the top of the test pits and extending to the bottom—over eighty feet—was a fine grained argillaceous sandstone which tests proved sufficiently strong to bear the weight which would be put upon it.

During last spring, however, more doubts were raised of the practicability of the site.

Secretary Taft made the Gatun dam site one of the points to receive his special attention when he visited the Isthmus in March, 1907.

SAIORS TO LAND AT MANILA.

Admiral Sperry Decides That There Is No Real Danger of Cholera.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

MANILA, Nov. 23.—After holding conferences with Gov.-Gen. Smith and receiving cables from the United States Navy Department Rear Admiral Sperry will allow the crews of the battleship to come ashore here, resuming his former decision that it would not be safe to allow the men ashore leave on account of the cholera.

The reception committee together with representatives of the army and the Insular Government met Rear Admiral Sperry on his flagship, the Connecticut, to-day and rearranged the necessarily curtailed programme for the entertainment of the officers and men of the fleet. The officers are urgently requesting a week's extension of the visit. The itinerary of the fleet would allow of this owing to the prolonged stop and extra days that have been provided for at Mediterranean ports.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—The misunderstanding between Admiral Sperry, commander in chief of the Atlantic battleship fleet, and Gov.-Gen. Smith of the Philippine Islands as to whether the seamen of the fleet are to be allowed shore liberty in Manila has been cleared up. Shore leave will not be restricted.

Gov.-Gen. Smith cabled to the War Department some days ago that he understood that Admiral Sperry would not allow his men to land in Manila through fear of cholera. The matter was reported to Secretary of the Navy Newberry. Admiral Sperry notified the Department to-day that shore leave would not be restricted.

Admiral Sperry said he was satisfied that the men could be allowed shore leave without danger from cholera. The seamen will also participate in a parade arranged in honor of the fleet's visit to Manila. The fleet will sail on December 1 for the return trip to the Atlantic coast.

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CARNEGIE TO BE CALLED

To Tell Ways and Means Committee His Views on the Tariff.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 23.—It is the intention of the Ways and Means Committee to summon Andrew Carnegie to give his views on the tariff.

The committee was moved to take action, it is said, by Mr. Carnegie's magazine article favoring the abandonment of the protective principle in its application to the steel industry.

High protectionist members of the committee will be in a mood to give the Laird of Skibo a hazing.

FIFTH AV. HOUSE FOR XMAS.

W. J. Dingee of California Gives His Wife an \$850,000 Home.

William Jackson Dingee, a wealthy real estate man of Oakland, Cal., who owned the house at 855 Fifth avenue, between the residences of George J. Gould and Mrs. Charles T. Yerkes, gave title in the property yesterday to his wife, Virginia.

Mr. Dingee is to present the house to his wife as a Christmas gift, and as they both left home several days ago he wanted title transferred immediately. The house was formerly occupied by Isaac Stern. The house is valued at \$850,000.

FIRED ON GERMAN WAR BALLOON.

Cossacks on the Polish Frontier Repel Aerial Invasion—Bullet in a Sand Bag.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

BRZESKO, Nov. 23.—Fifteen shots were fired to-day at a balloon flying the German flag while it was sailing close to the Russo-Polish frontier. It is believed here that the shooting was done by Cossacks.

No one was hurt, although one shot struck the car of the balloon, burying itself in a sand bag. The balloon landed safely on German soil.

MORE SIGNS ON SUBWAY TRAINS.

Women Ask for Front Labels, Station Lists and Electric Announcers.

A delegation representing the Federation of Women's Clubs called upon the Public Service Commission yesterday to urge certain improvements in the subway. Mrs. Robert Francis Cartwright, head of the delegation, asked the commission to insist on placing destination signs on the front of the subway trains.

She advocated also that each car should carry a list, conspicuously displayed, of all stations at which the train would stop, the local stations to be shown in black letters and the express stations in red, and she appealed also for the equipment of every car with an electric annunciator to designate clearly the station at which the train would next stop.

Another demand made by the delegation was that the guards should be cautioned not to try to close the car doors while passengers were getting on and off the cars. Instances were given of women who had been hurt by such negligence. Chairman Willcox promised that the commission would give consideration to the complaints.

WON'T TRY TO CUT SALARIES.

Aldermen Listen Respectfully and Let It Go at That.

The Aldermen's Finance Committee gave another hearing yesterday on the budget. The speakers for the most part urged the reduction of salaries. President Coler of Brooklyn submitted a statement showing that when he was Comptroller \$400,915 a year less than this year's salary list was paid in salaries. He had only 474 employees while Mr. Metz had 823.

Other speakers complained of the waste of money in the Sheriff's office. One of these speakers asserted that the average work done by a deputy was the serving of one process a day and that the number of deputies could be cut in half and leave an ample force, with a saving of \$25,000 a year. Complaint was also made by a representative of the Allied Real Estate Interests that the city paid its stenographers and typewriters too much.

Little Tim Sullivan, the chairman of the committee, and his colleagues listened with respectful attention. At the meeting of the board to-day the committee will recommend the adoption of the budget without